

FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

**Minutes of March 29, 2004**

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, California

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative  
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Virginia Maloles, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services  
Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

John Gullledge, County Sanitation Districts of L.A. County  
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles  
Ledra Sanchez, City of Gardena

OTHERS PRESENT

Shari Afshari, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Charles Boehmke, Task Force Alternate, County Sanitation Districts of L.A. County  
Doug Corcoran, Waste Management, Inc.  
Linda Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Joe Massey, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries  
John McTaggart, Task Force Alternate, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2003**

The minutes of February 19, 2004, were unanimously approved as presented.

**III. CONSIDERATION OF FINDING OF CONFORMANCE FOR BRADLEY LANDFILL**

Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works informed the Subcommittee members that Waste Management, Inc. did not meet the March 1, 2004, deadline to submit required documents which was set by the Task Force at the February 2004 meeting. A letter finding Waste Management in non-conformance was prepared by staff. On March 3, Waste Management provided the required information. The information was reviewed by staff, and summarized into a staff report. Staff indicated that the Task Force had two options: 1) send the prepared letter finding Waste Management in non-conformance or 2) find Waste Management in conformance. Staff recommended the Task Force take the second option.

Clarification on Bradley Landfill's operation procedures and how the LEA noted the error in height was called upon. Mr. Aiyetiwa explained Waste Management was notified by a City of Los Angeles inspector that Bradley Landfill was operating beyond the approved joint technical documents. A Notice and Order was issued to Waste Management at that time to either revise the operating elevations or get a new revised Solid Waste Facility Permit. Waste Management decided to obtain a new permit from the LEA and the Waste Board. It was during the consideration of the new permit that the LEA and the Waste Board noted that Waste Management was correct and that the height should have been 1,010 feet.

A question arose regarding the Landfill's liners and maximum elevation. Mr. Aiyetiwa explained the present liners at Bradley West and Bradley West Extension, where waste is currently disposed, met the approval of the State. Therefore staff did not question the rationale of how the State approved the permit. Mr. Ruiz added that when the Waste Board was processing the solid waste facility permit for the regrade project, much effort went into evaluating the environmental documents and City approvals. In the end, the conclusion was reached by the LEA and the Waste Board that the intent was to have an elevation of 1,010 feet.

Mr. Mike Mohajer distributed his analysis of the staff report and the information provided by Waste Management (attached). Mr. Mohajer's concerns focused on the City's actions during its environmental analysis for the new permit and the protection of the residents against landfill gas. Specifically, he addressed the need for additional information on the City's intent with respect to the elevation of 1,010 feet, the City's review of environmental documents and approvals, and the City's enforcement of its building code requirements. Once that information is received, a decision could be made regarding the issue of compliance.

A motion was made to request the Task Force to:

- 1) Draft a letter to the City of Los Angeles Planning Department asking them to explain their documentation, to clarify the final elevation of the landfill, and to provide a chronological sequence of the CEQA process adopting/approving the land use permit for the Landfill.
- 2) Draft a letter to the City of Los Angeles Building and Safety Department asking them to specify their code for landfill gas migration regarding new and existing structures that are adjacent to the Landfill. Ask them to clarify whether they have enforced the building code for structures around Bradley Landfill.
- 3) Draft a letter to Waste Management thanking them for their report and requesting documentation for concerns that Mr. Mohajer raised in his summary which shall be attached to the letter.

The motion was unanimously approved.

A thank you was extended to Mr. Doug Corcoran for the extensive documents provided in an attempt to meet the requests of the Task Force, and to staff for the useful summary of the documents received.

The subcommittee requested Mr. Corcoran provide a written summary of the odor and noise complaints that have been made and remedies that will be taken by Waste Management, as that had not been requested by the Task Force in the letter of July 10, 2003, for additional information.

#### **IV. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no open discussion or public comment at the meeting.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.